

Criminal Justice Project: Drug Interventions Programme

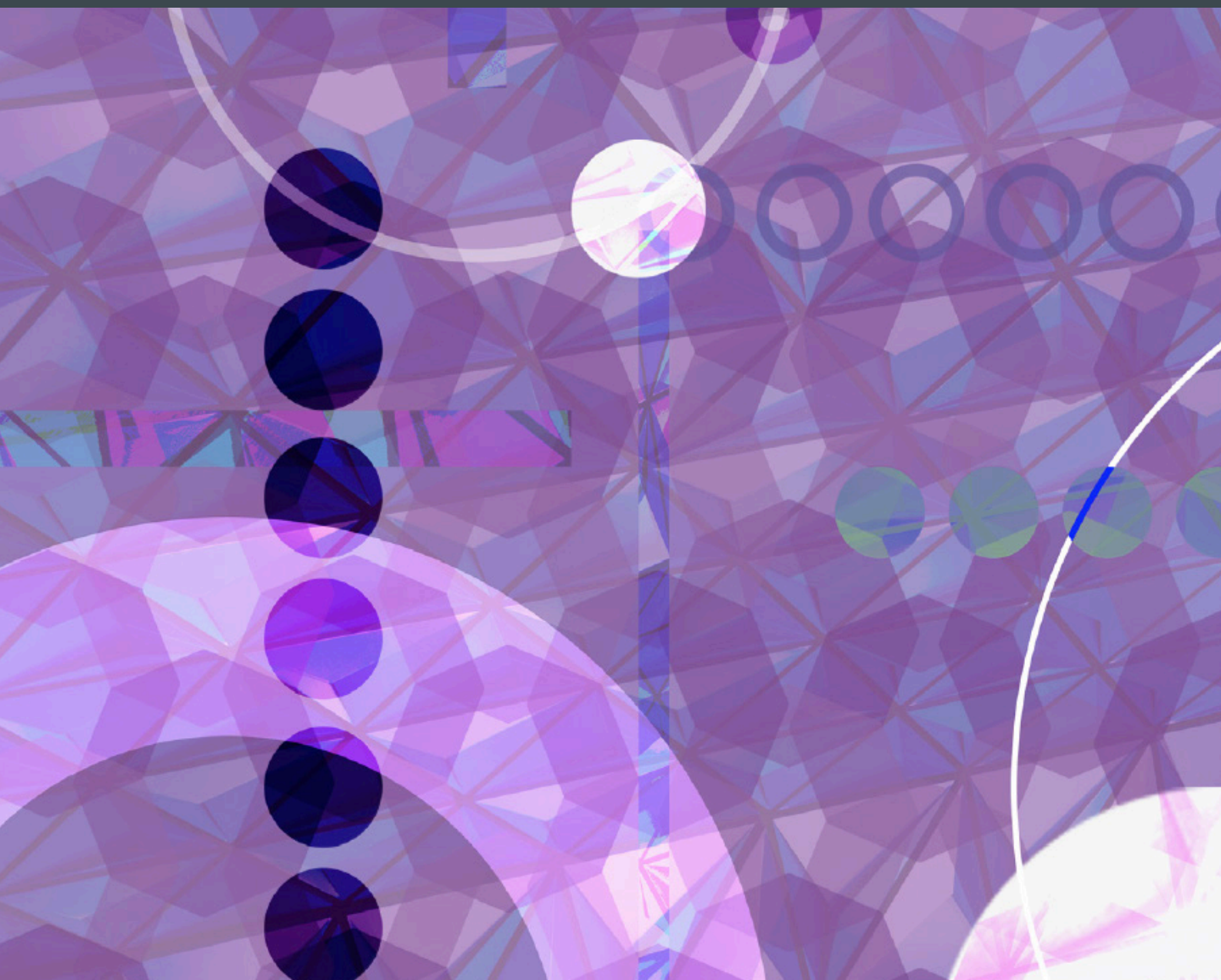
Criminal Justice Intervention Team Activity in Knowsley:

year ending March 2024

March 2025



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- In the year ending March 2024, there were 269 adult contacts (261 individuals) recorded by Knowsley Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT), which is a 76% increase on the 153 episodes in the previous year.
- Around four in five (81%) of the CJIT episodes in 2023/24 were other criminal justice routes, most of which were referrals made through the client's Offender Manager.
- Over four in five (84%) Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 were taken onto the CJIT caseload.

Knowsley residents

- In the year ending March 2024, 208 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Knowsley Local Authority were in contact with Knowsley CJIT. The postcode district with the highest number of Knowsley CJIT contacts was L36 (28%), followed by L32 and L33 (16% and 14% respectively).
- The average age of individuals assessed in the year ending March 2024 was 36 years. Around one in three (34%) were aged 30-39 years, followed by individuals aged 18-29 years (29%), 40-49 years (28%) and 50 years or over (9%).
- Around nine in ten (89%) individuals in contact with Knowsley CJIT in the year ending March 2024 stated they were men.
- Almost all Knowsley CJIT contacts identified themselves as White British (97%).
- Around three in ten (31%) Knowsley residents considered themselves to have a disability; of which, just over half (53%) were a behaviour and emotional disability.
- Just under two in five (38%) Knowsley residents were in a rented home, followed by other housing situations (33%), no home of their own (22%) and those who owned their own home (7%).
- One in twenty (5%) reported they had a risk of homelessness in the next eight weeks.
- One-third (33%) of the clients had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years; of which, two-thirds (66%) had none of the children they are responsible for living with them the majority of the time.
- Of the main substances reported by Knowsley residents in the year ending March 2024, around three in ten (29%) were cannabis, followed by cocaine and alcohol (26% and 24% respectively). Just under two in five (38%) reported their second substance as cocaine, followed by around one-quarter (26%) who reported crack cocaine, while 41% reported their third substance as cannabis.
- Just over two in five (42%) of the Knowsley CJIT contacts smoked their main substance, while around three in ten (29%) administered their main substance intranasally and around a quarter (26%) administered their main substance orally.
- Just over nine in ten (92%) stated they had never injected.
- Just over half (54%) of the clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in 2023/24 were issued with naloxone; of which, 80% were supplied with nasal naloxone. Of the clients not issued with naloxone, just over half (53%) were already in possession of adequate naloxone.

- Around half (49%) of men consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment. Of these, just under three in five (57%) consumed 7-15 units of alcohol on an average day.
- Although numbers are small, just over half (53%) of women consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT assessment. Of these, equal proportions consumed 1-6 units and 7-15 units of alcohol on an average day (31% each).
- Misuse of Drugs Act offences accounted for just over a third (35%) of the offences that prompted the current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system, followed by around a quarter (26%) categorised as 'other'.
- Of the clients on the CJIT caseload, 60 (59 individuals) were referred to structured treatment in the year ending March 2024.
- Two in three (66%) clients closed from the Knowsley CJIT caseload in the year ending March 2024 completed treatment, while one in five (20%) did not complete treatment and one in seven (14%) transferred prior to the completion of treatment.
- Of the Knowsley residents who completed treatment successfully, the average time on the CJIT caseload was 137 days.

Through the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP), Knowsley Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT) works with adults (aged 18 years or over) in the criminal justice system who use drugs and/or alcohol in order to reduce acquisitive crime (Collins et al., 2016; Public Health England and Ministry of Justice, 2017; Public Health Institute, 2015 & 2017).

A key route in identifying people for DIP is Drug Testing on Arrest, whereby under certain criteria, adults are tested for specified Class A drugs (opiates and/or powder/crack cocaine) in police custody following an arrest. Those who test positive for specified Class A drugs are required to undergo a Required Assessment (RA) with their local CJIT. There are other sources of referral into DIP, including: Conditional Cautioning; court mandated processes, such as Restriction on Bail and pre-sentence reports; requirement by the Offender Manager for those with a community sentence (Drug Rehabilitation Requirements and Alcohol Treatment Requirements); following release from prison; as well as voluntary presentations.

CJIT assessments determine whether further intervention is required to address substance use and offending, and if necessary, encourage engagement with a range of appropriate interventions. CJITs provides wraparound support across four key areas (Home Office, 2011): drug and alcohol use (harm reduction and overdose management); offending; physical and psychosocial health; and social functioning (housing, employment and relationships). The CJIT dataset captures client information, episode details and referrals to structured treatment, which is submitted to the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) via the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS).

This CJIT Activity report for Knowsley shows trends over a six-year period up to the year ending March 2024 for clients accessing the CJIT and where possible, comparisons to the Merseyside figures have been made¹.

Combating Drugs Partnerships

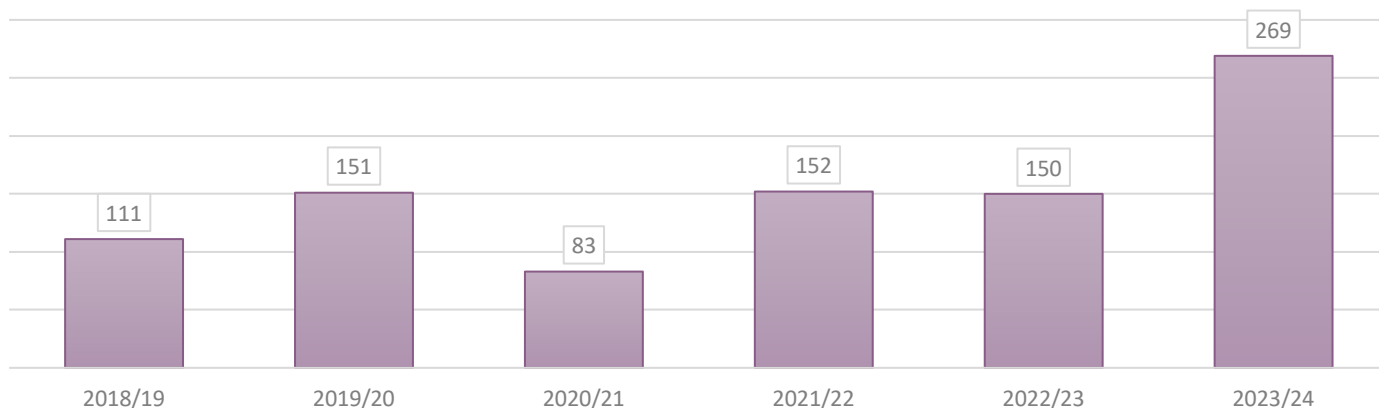
The Government's Drug Strategy stated its plan to reduce drug-related crime, deaths, harms and overall drug use (HM Government, 2021), outlining the requirement to establish and develop Combating Drugs Partnerships (CDPs) to oversee and co-ordinate its local delivery. Partnerships should lead a joint local needs assessment, a local drugs strategy delivery plan and regularly review progress (Home Office, 2022), through the National Combating Drugs Outcomes Framework, a means for monitoring progress nationally and locally (Home Office, 2023).

¹ Notes to accompany this report are available in [Appendix A](#). Supplementary data to support this report can be accessed here: [CJIT Activity in Merseyside: supplementary tables & charts \(end 2023/24\)](#).

OVERVIEW

In the year ending March 2024, there were 269 adult contacts (261 individuals) recorded by Knowsley Criminal Justice Intervention Team (CJIT). This is a 76% increase on the 153 CJIT episodes in the previous year and the highest number of the six-year period (Figure 1).

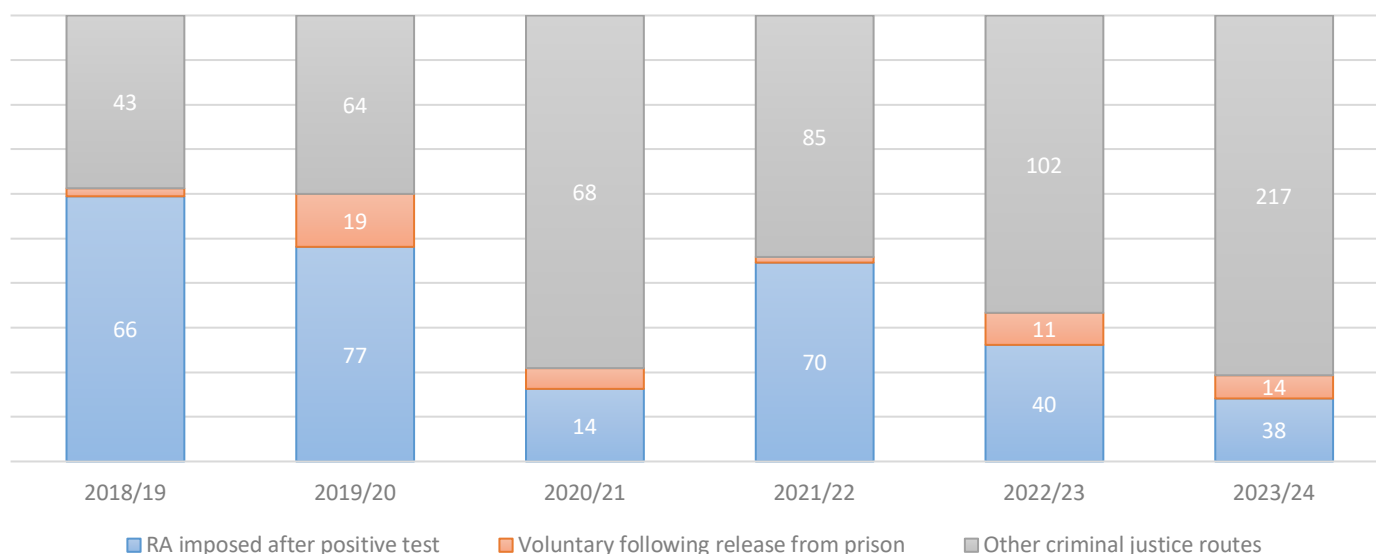
Figure 1: Knowsley CJIT episodes (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24



CRIMINAL JUSTICE ROUTES IN KNOWSLEY

Figure 2 shows the criminal justice routes that led to the contact with Knowsley CJIT between 2018/19 and 2023/24. Around four in five of the CJIT episodes in the year ending March 2024 were other criminal justice routes (n=217, 81%)², which is more than double the 102 contacts in the previous year (113% increase) and the largest number of the six-year period. Furthermore, this is the largest proportion of all CJIT contacts recorded by the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 46%). Notably, numbers of Required Assessments (RAs) imposed following a positive test for specified Class A drugs in police custody and clients who presented voluntarily following release from prison in 2022/23 and 2023/24 were similar.

Figure 2: Knowsley CJIT contacts by referral route (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24



² Other criminal justice routes: required by offender management scheme/DRR/ATR/IOM = 95, requested by Offender Manager (post DRR/ATR) = 62, Conditional Cautioning = 41, other = 10, voluntary - liaison and diversion = 5, voluntary - other <5, referred by treatment provider (post treatment) <5, Restriction on Bail <5.

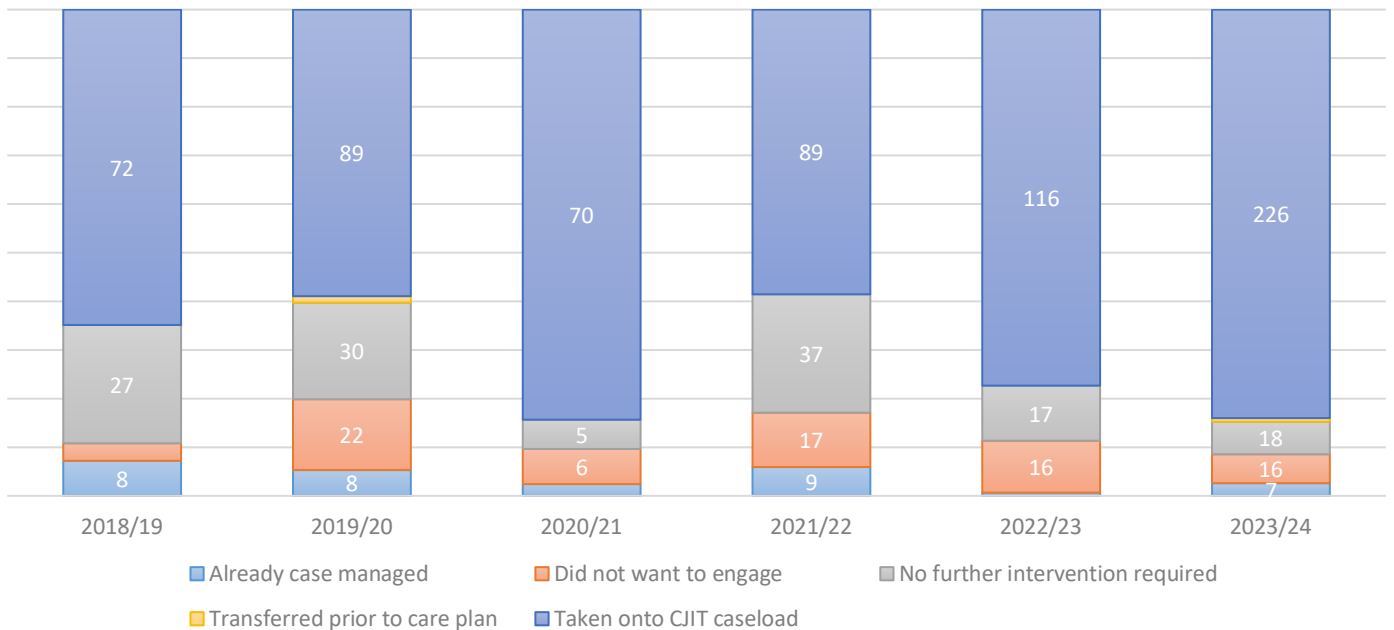
Offender Manager referrals

- In the year ending March 2024, there was a large number of clients who had contact with Knowsley CJIT through their Offender Manager, accounting for just under three in five (58%) of the total CJIT contacts (required by offender management scheme/DRR/ATR/IOM = 95, requested by Offender Manager post DRR/ATR = 62).
- Of the 157 Knowsley CJIT contacts referred by their Offender Manager in the year ending March 2024, just under nine in ten were men (n=134, 87%), and three in five were aged 18-39 years (n=92, 60%), followed by two in five aged 40 years or over (n=62, 40%).
- Around one-third reported alcohol as their main substance (n=54, 34%), while around three in ten reported cannabis (n=46, 29%) and around one in five reported powder cocaine (n=33, 21%).
- Three in ten clients had contact with their Offender Manager, who subsequently referred them to Knowsley CJIT, due to offences categorised as 'other' (n=47, 30%).

OUTCOMES FOLLOWING CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENT

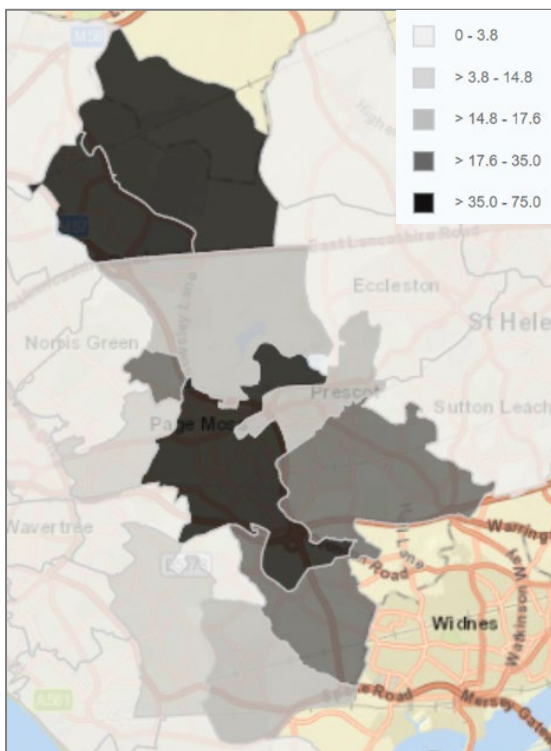
Over four in five Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 were taken onto the CJIT caseload (n=226, 84%; *Figure 3*), which is similar to the Merseyside total (83%) and is almost double the 116 clients taken onto the caseload in the previous year (95% increase). Notably, Knowsley CJIT had the largest proportion of people assessed in 2023/24 who did not require further intervention of the five Merseyside CJITs (n=18, 7%; Merseyside total: 3%).

Figure 3: Knowsley CJIT contacts by outcome following criminal justice assessment (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24



DEMOGRAPHICS

Figure 4: Knowsley residents by postcode area of residence (n), 2023/24



In the year ending March 2024, 208.1 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Knowsley Local Authority (LA) were in contact with Knowsley CJIT, compared to 138.7 per 100,000 across Merseyside. This is the largest rate of individuals in contact with a Merseyside CJIT of the five Merseyside areas (see [Appendix B](#) for a table and map of all Merseyside areas).

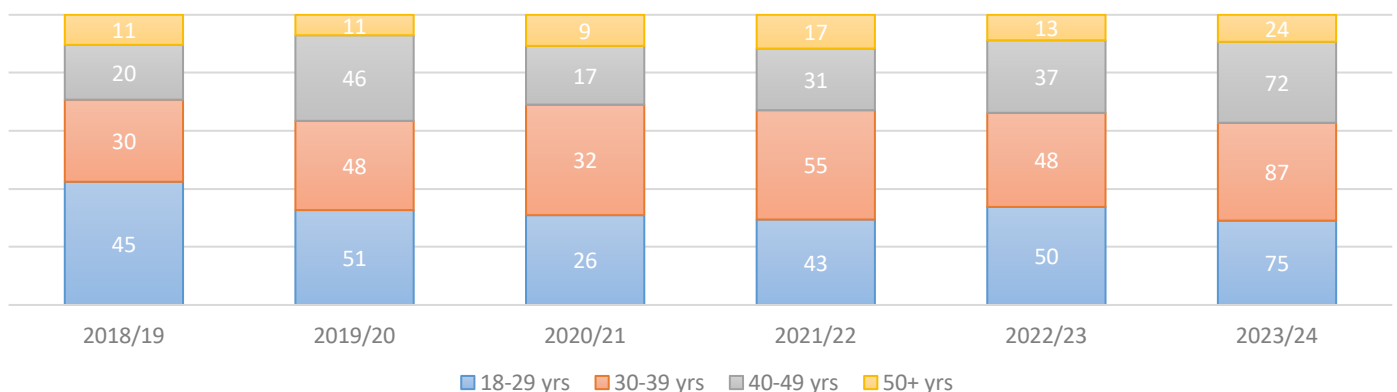
The postcode district with the highest number of Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 was L36 (n=75, 28%), followed by L32 (n=42, 16%) and L33 (n=37, 14%; *Figure 4*).

AGE AND SEX

The average age of Knowsley residents assessed in the year ending March 2024 was 36 years (men = 35, women = 38), compared to 35 years in the previous twelve-month period. Looking at age groups, around one in three individuals were aged 30-39 years (n=87, 34%), followed by individuals aged 18-29 years (n=75, 29%), 40-49 years (n=72, 28%) and 50 years or over (n=24, 9%; *Figure 5*).

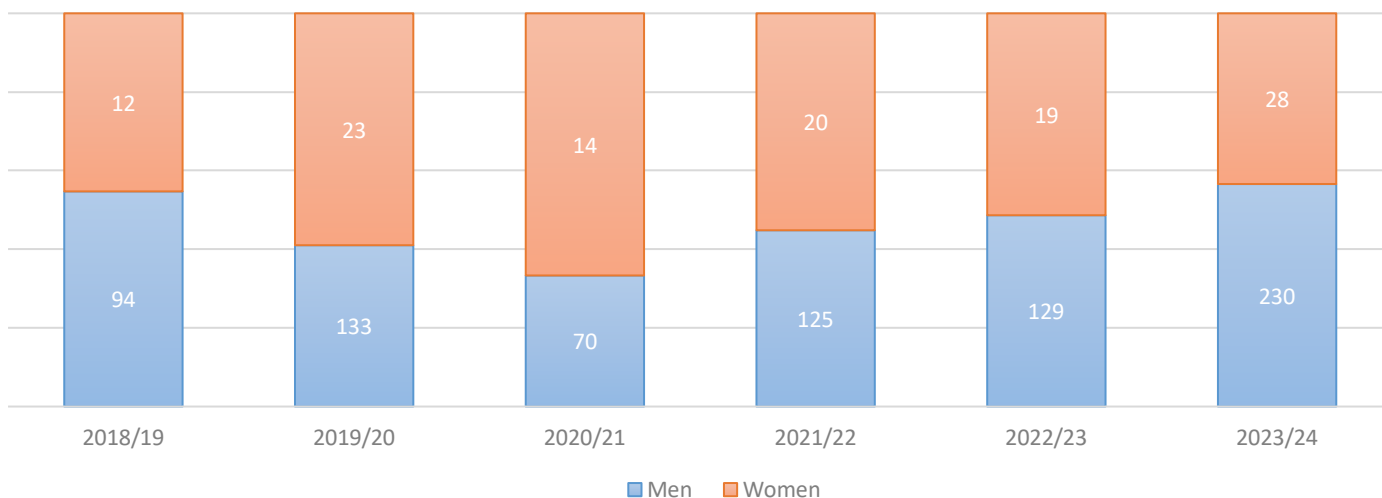
As a proportion of all individuals assessed in 2023/24, even though those aged 18-29 years is the smallest of the six-year period (joint with 2021/22), it is the largest proportion recorded by the Merseyside CJIT areas (Merseyside total: 23%). Conversely, the proportion of individuals aged 50 years or over in 2023/24 is the smallest across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 15%).

Figure 5: Knowsley residents by age group (n, individuals), 2018/19 - 2023/24



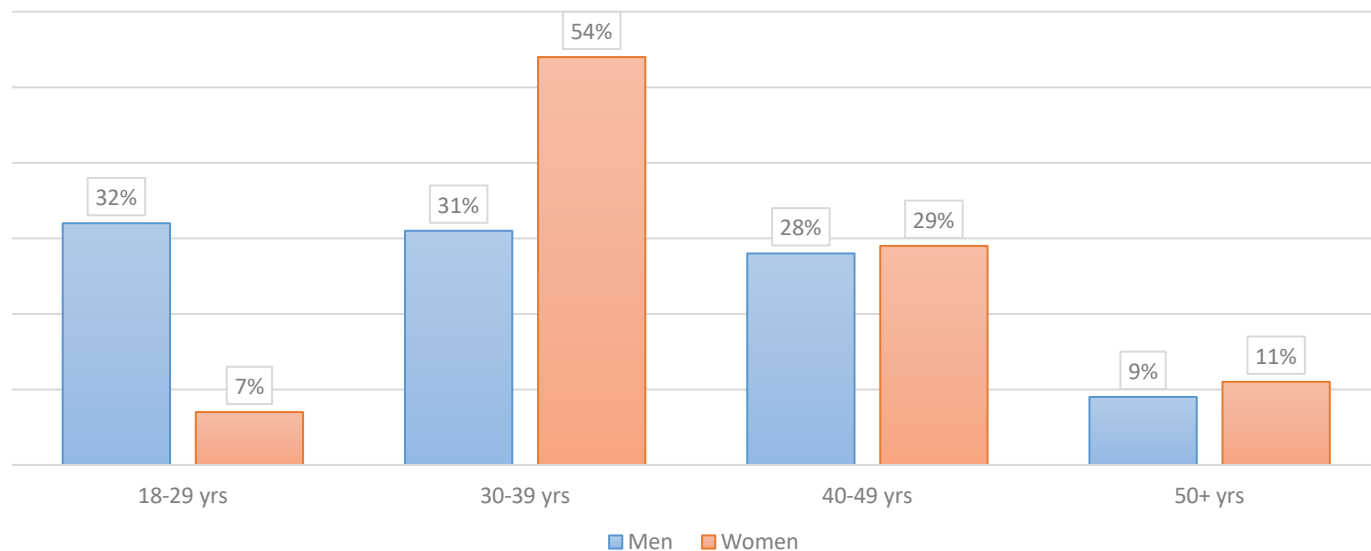
Around nine in ten individuals in contact with Knowsley CJIT in the year ending March 2024 stated they were men (n=230, 89%), which is the largest proportion since 2018/19 (also 89%; *Figure 6*) and the largest proportion of the Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 87%).

Figure 6: Knowsley residents by sex (n, individuals), 2018/19 - 2023/24



When comparing age group with sex in the year ending March 2024, there are some notable differences (*Figure 7*). There was a substantially larger proportion of men aged 18-29 years than women (32% and 7% respectively), while there was a substantially larger proportion of women than men aged 30-39 years (54% and 31% respectively). Proportions of men and women were similar for individuals aged 40-49 years (28% and 29% respectively) and 50 years or over (9% and 11% respectively).

Figure 7: Knowsley residents by age group and sex (% individuals), 2023/24



ETHNICITY

Where recorded, almost all Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 identified themselves as White British (n=200, 97%; *Figure 8*), which is similar to the previous year's proportion (96%), though a slightly larger proportion than the Merseyside figure (93%).

Figure 8: Knowsley residents by ethnicity (individuals), 2023/24



200 (97%)

individuals identifying as White British

DISABILITY

Around three in ten Knowsley residents in the year ending March 2024 considered themselves to have a disability (n=79, 31%; *Figure 9*). This is a 61% increase on the 49 CJIT contacts in the previous year and is just below the Merseyside figure (35%).

Figure 9: Knowsley residents by disability status, 2023/24

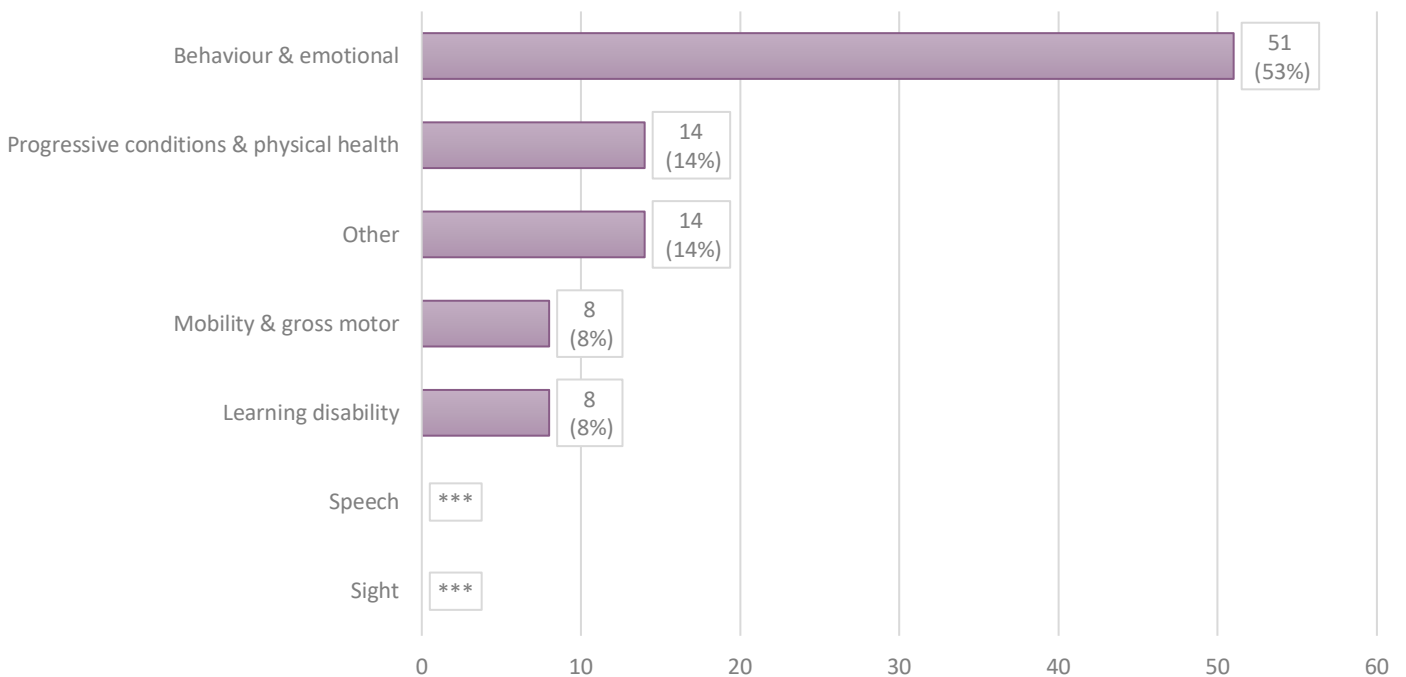


79 (31%)

clients consider themselves to have a disability

A total of 97 disabilities were recorded³; of which, just over half were a behaviour and emotional disability (n=51, 53%; *Figure 10*).

Figure 10: Knowsley residents by disability type, 2023/24



³ Note that clients may have up to three disabilities recorded.

VETERAN

Seven (3%) Knowsley residents in the year ending March 2024 stated they were a veteran of the British Armed Forces (*Figure 11*).

Figure 11: Knowsley residents by veteran status, 2023/24



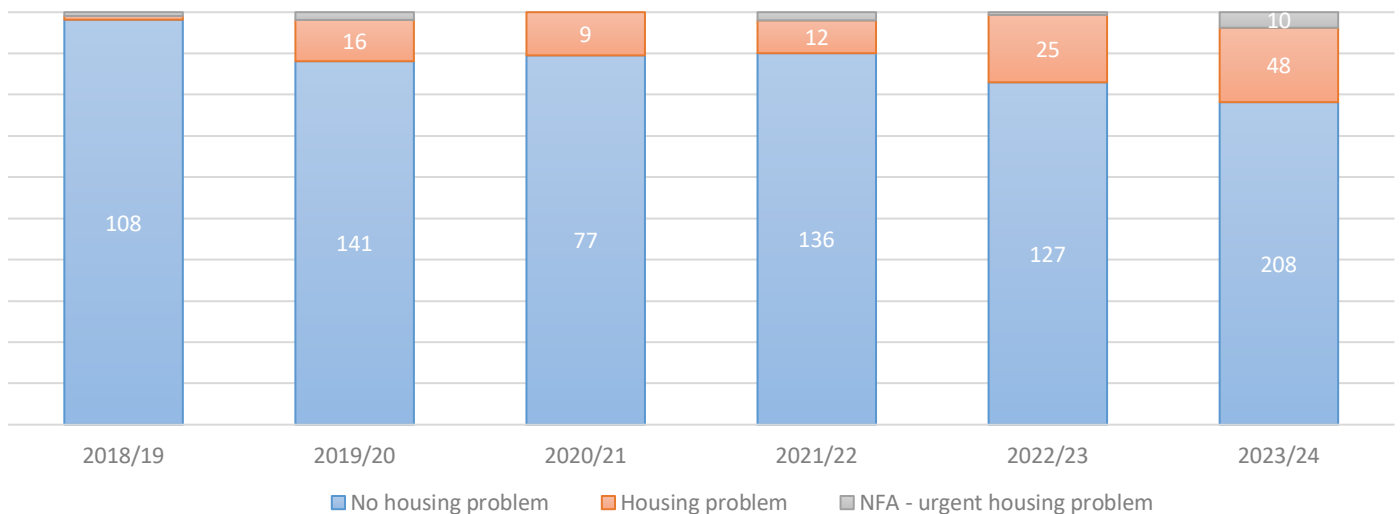
7 (3%)

veterans of the British Armed Forces

HOUSING

While the majority of the Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 reported no housing problem, just over one in five had some form of a housing problem (n=58, 22%; *Figure 12*)⁴. This is a 123% increase on the 26 episodes in the previous year and accounts for the largest proportion of CJIT contacts of the six-year period, though it is below the Merseyside figure (29%). Furthermore, there were ten (4%) Knowsley residents who stated an urgent housing need due to being of no fixed abode (NFA) in 2023/24, which is a smaller proportion than the Merseyside total (10%).

Figure 12: Knowsley residents by housing need (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24



In the year ending March 2024, just under two in five clients were in a rented home (n=102, 38%), followed by other housing situations (n=88, 33%), no home of their own (n=58, 22%) and those who owned their own home (n=18, 7%).

Furthermore, one in twenty of the total Knowsley residents in 2023/24 reported they had a risk of homelessness in the next eight weeks (n=12, 5%). This is the same proportion as the previous year, though the smallest proportion reported across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 14%).

⁴ NFA = no fixed abode. Note that housing was updated in the CJIT dataset in April 2022 to capture details of clients' current housing situation (e.g., no home of their own - hostel, rented home only - self-contained - rents from a private landlord). These have been recoded as no housing problem, housing problem and NFA - urgent housing problem, in order to make comparisons to preceding years. Non-urgent housing need includes: staying with friends/family short term, short stay hostel, short term B&B/hotel, placed in temporary accommodation by LA. Urgent housing need (NFA) includes: lives on streets/rough sleeper, uses night shelter (night-by-night basis)/emergency hostels, sofa surfing/sleeps on different friend's floor each night.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

In the year ending March 2024, one-third of the Knowsley residents had parental responsibility for a child aged under 18 years (n=87, 33%; *Figure 13*). This is more than double the 43 clients in the previous year (102% increase) and is a larger proportion than the Merseyside figure (23%).

Figure 13: Knowsley residents by parental status, 2023/24



87 (33%)

clients with parental responsibility

Two-thirds of the Knowsley CJIT contacts with parental responsibility had none of the children they are responsible for living with them the majority of the time (n=57, 66%). This is a substantial increase on the previous year (n=18; 217% increase), though just below the Merseyside figure (69%).

SUBSTANCE USE

Of the main substances reported by Knowsley residents in the year ending March 2024, around three in ten were cannabis (n=78, 29%), while powder cocaine (n=68, 26%) and alcohol (n=63, 24%) accounted for around one-quarter (*Figure 14*). As a proportion of Knowsley residents assessed in 2023/24, when compared to the previous year cannabis and other opiates decreased, while the proportions of all other substances increased. Notably, the number of episodes with heroin recorded as the main substance in the year ending March 2024 increased by 157%. When compared to the other Merseyside areas, Knowsley had the largest proportions of cannabis and other substances (Merseyside totals: 14% and 3% respectively), and the smallest proportions of crack cocaine and heroin (Merseyside totals: 9% and 29% respectively).

Figure 14: Knowsley residents by main substance (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24

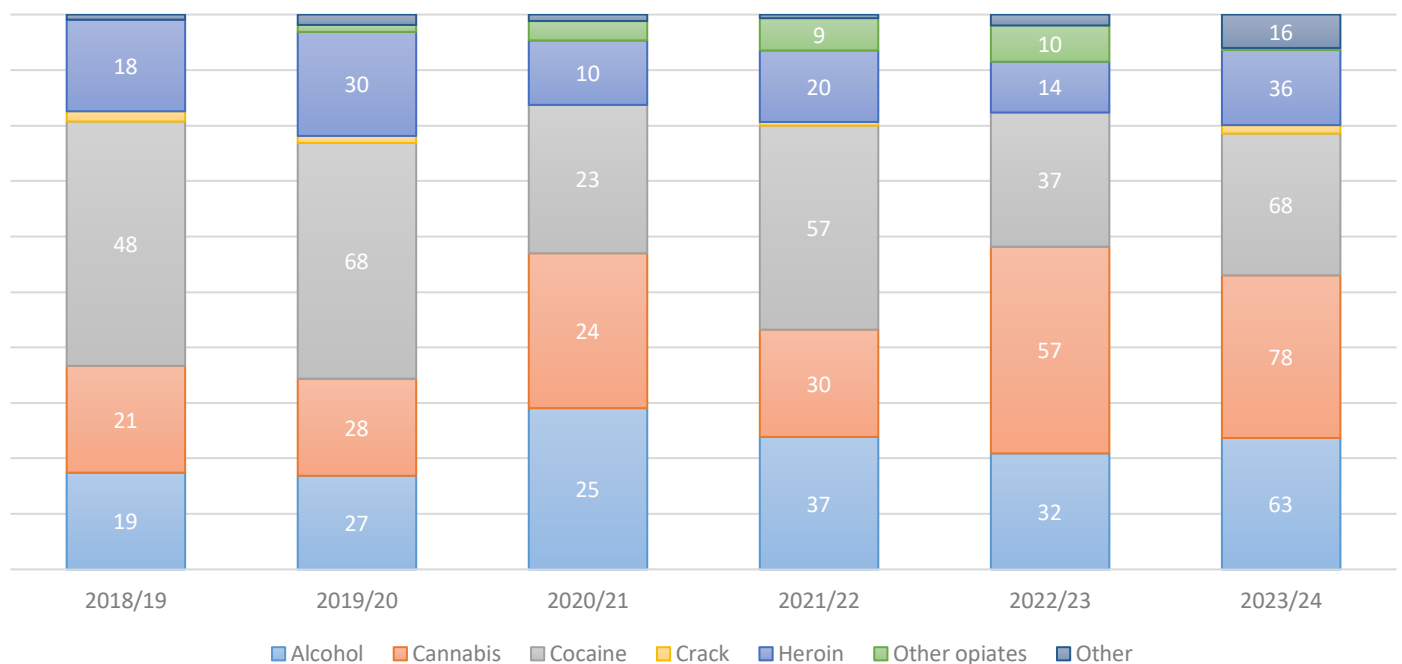


Figure 15 shows 2023/24 figures split by substance one, two and three. Just under two in five reported their second substance as powder cocaine (n=40, 38%), followed by around one-quarter who reported crack cocaine (n=27, 26%), while 41% reported their third substance as cannabis (n=11).

Figure 15: Knowsley residents by substances 1-3 (%), 2023/24

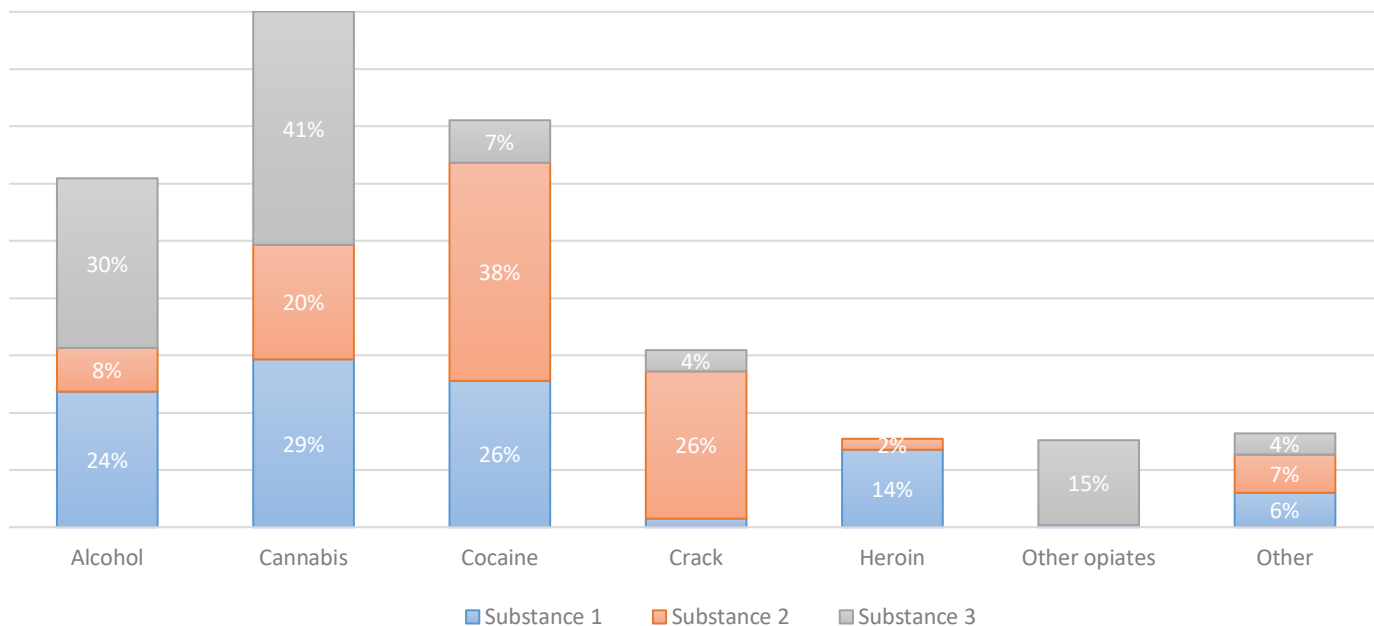


Figure 16 shows the proportions of the main substance by sex in the year ending March 2024. There were substantially larger proportions of cannabis and powder cocaine recorded as the main substance by men (32% and 27% respectively) than women (10% and 17% respectively), while there were substantially larger proportions of alcohol and heroin recorded by women (33% and 30% respectively) than men (22% and 11% respectively).

Figure 16: Knowsley residents by main substance and sex (%), 2023/24

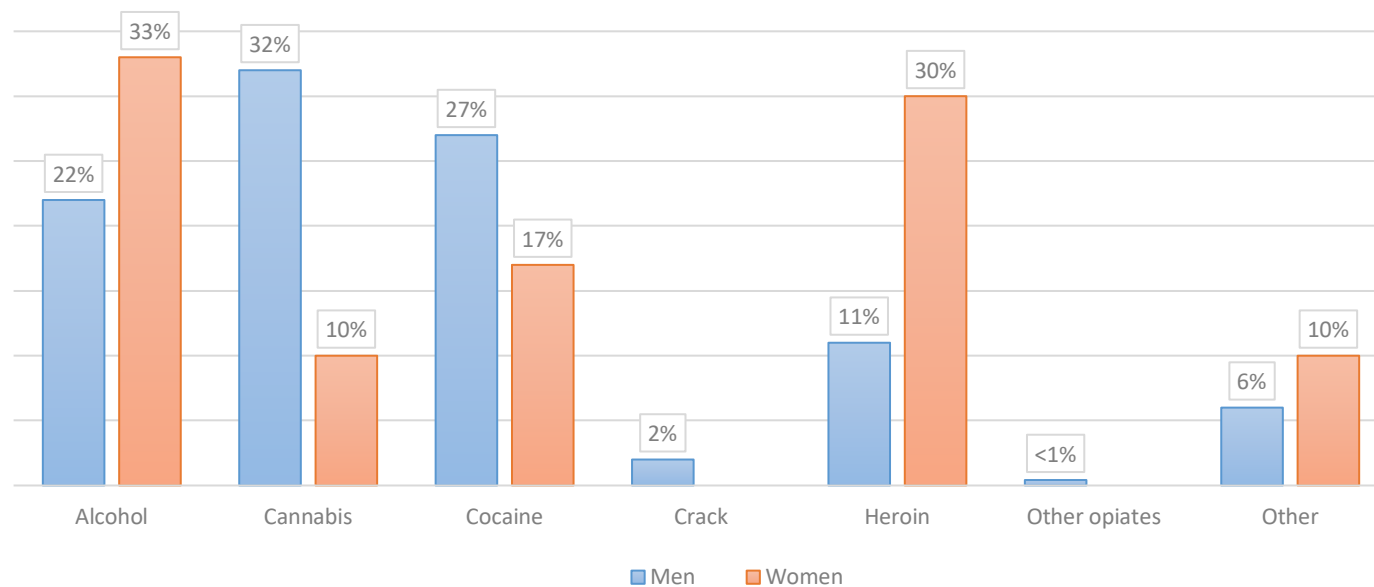
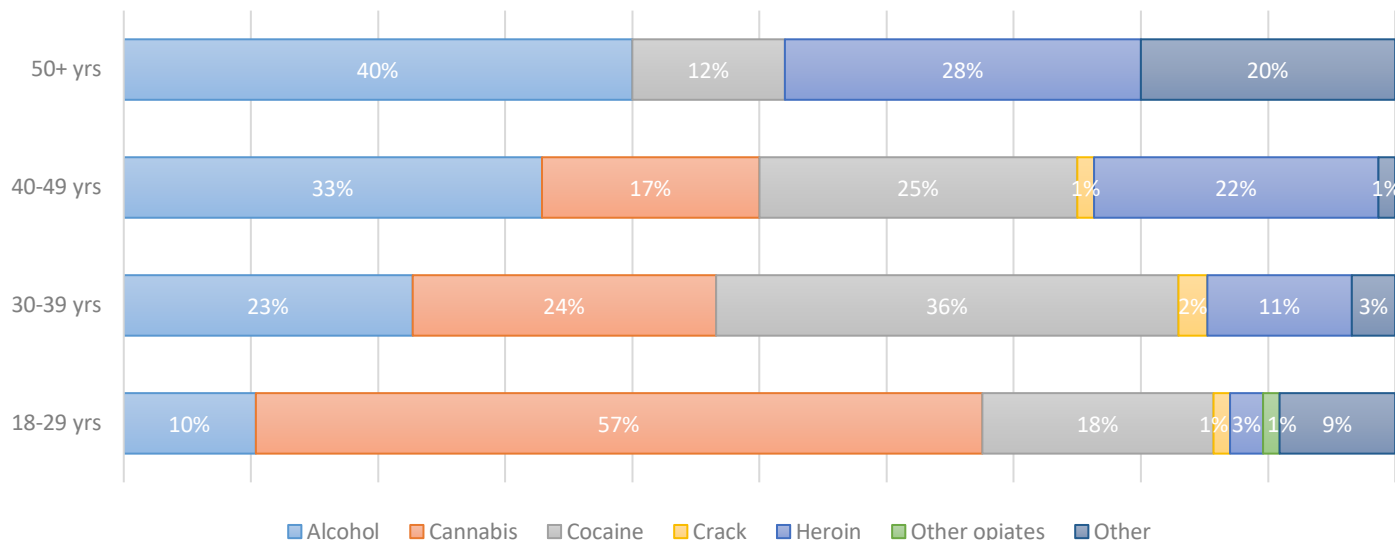


Figure 17 shows the proportions of the main substance for each age group in the year ending March 2024. Proportions for alcohol were highest for clients aged 50 years or over (40%), which decreased as age decreased, while just under three in five (57%) 18-29 year olds reported cannabis as their main substance and proportions decreased as age increased. Clients aged 30-39 years accounted for the largest proportion who reported powder cocaine as their main substance (36%) and clients aged 50 years or over accounted for the largest proportions of heroin and other substances (28% and 20% respectively).

Figure 17: Knowsley residents by main substance and age group (%), 2023/24

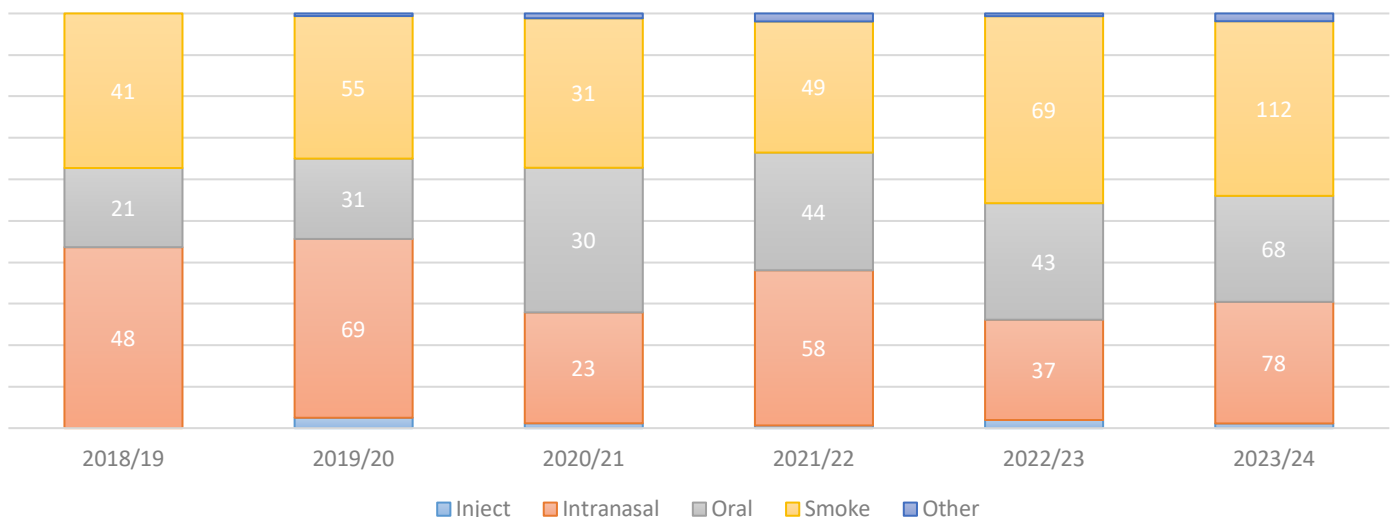


ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION

The route of administration of the main substance is shown in Figure 18. In the year ending March 2024, just over two in five of the Knowsley CJIT contacts smoked their main substance (n=112, 42%), while around three in ten administered their main substance intranasally (n=78, 29%) and around a quarter administered their main substance orally (n=68, 26%).

The number of clients who administered their main substance intranasally in the year ending March 2024 is more than double the 37 clients in the previous year (111% increase). Even though Knowsley residents who smoked their main substance accounted for the largest proportion in 2023/24, it is the smallest proportion of the Merseyside areas (Merseyside total: 48%).

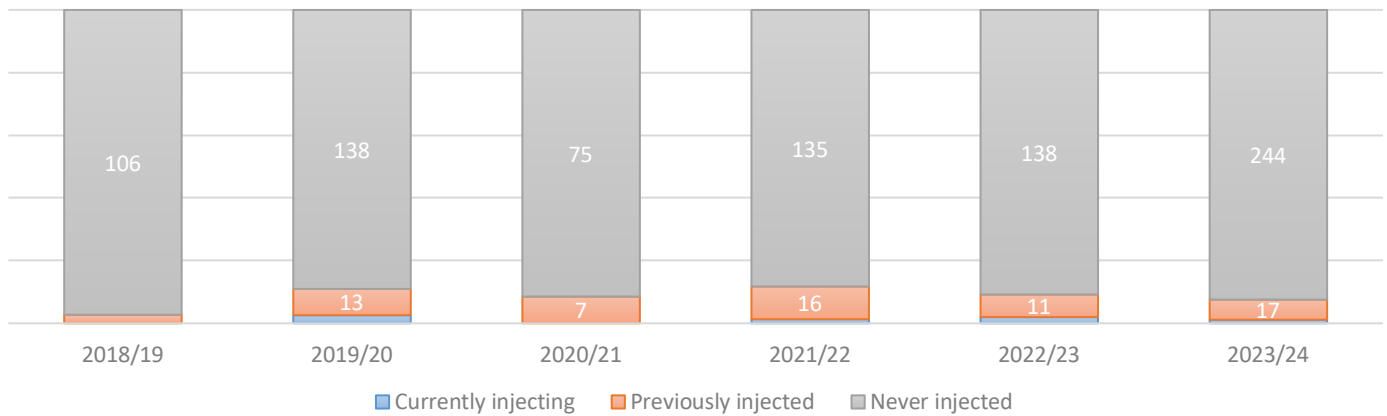
Figure 18: Knowsley residents by route of administration of the main substance (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24



INJECTING STATUS

Just over nine in ten Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year ending March 2024 stated they had never injected (n=244, 92%; *Figure 19*), which is the largest proportion across the Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 79%).

Figure 19: Knowsley residents by injecting status (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24



NALOXONE PROVISION

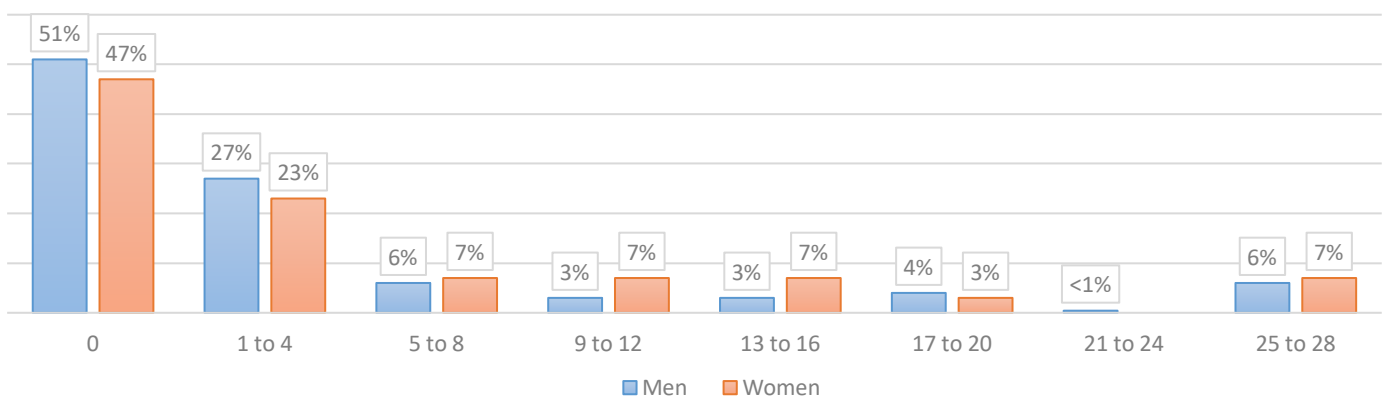
Just over half of the clients who reported an opioid as their main substance in the year ending March 2024 were issued with naloxone (n=20, 54%). This is a 186% increase on the seven clients issued with naloxone in the previous year and is the largest proportion across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 35%).

Of the clients issued with naloxone in 2023/24, 80% were supplied with nasal naloxone, which is the largest proportion across Merseyside (Merseyside total: 37%). While of the clients who were not issued with naloxone, just over half were already in possession of adequate naloxone (n=9, 53%).

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

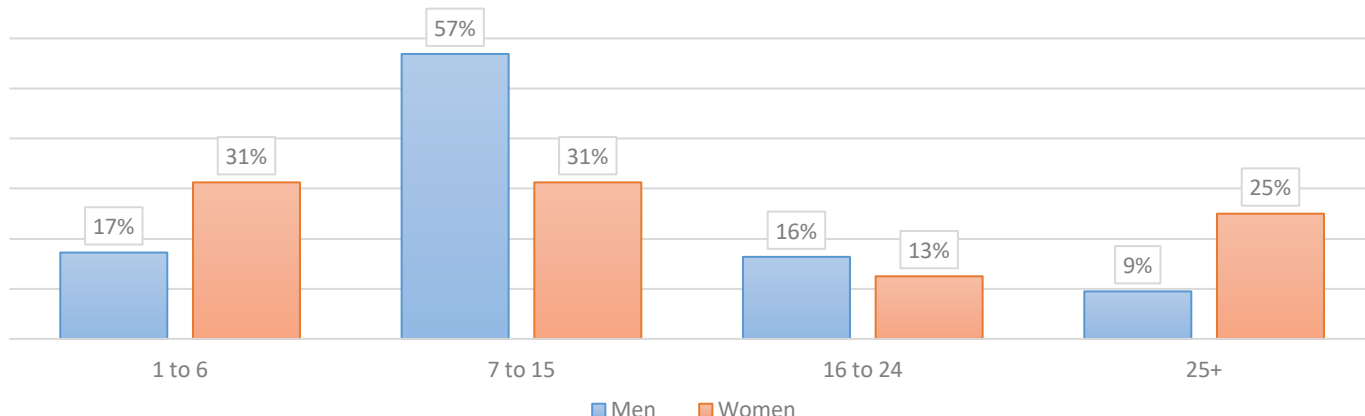
Figure 20 shows the number of days alcohol was consumed by Knowsley clients in the 28 days prior to their CJIT contact in the year ending March 2024. Around half of men consumed alcohol (n=116, 49%), which is a decrease on the previous year's proportion (60%), though similar to the Merseyside figure (47%). Just over half of women consumed alcohol in the 28 days prior to their CJIT contact in 2023/24 (n=16, 53%; *Figure 20*), which is an increase on the previous year's proportion (40%), though a larger proportion than the Merseyside total (38%).

Figure 20: Knowsley residents by number of drinking days in the 28 days prior to assessment and sex (%), 2023/24



The daily average number of units of alcohol consumed in the 28 days prior to CJIT contact in the year ending March 2024 are shown in *Figure 21*. Just under three in five men consumed 7-15 units of alcohol daily (n=66, 57%), while equal proportions of women consumed 1-6 units and 7-15 units of alcohol daily, accounting for a total of ten women (63%).

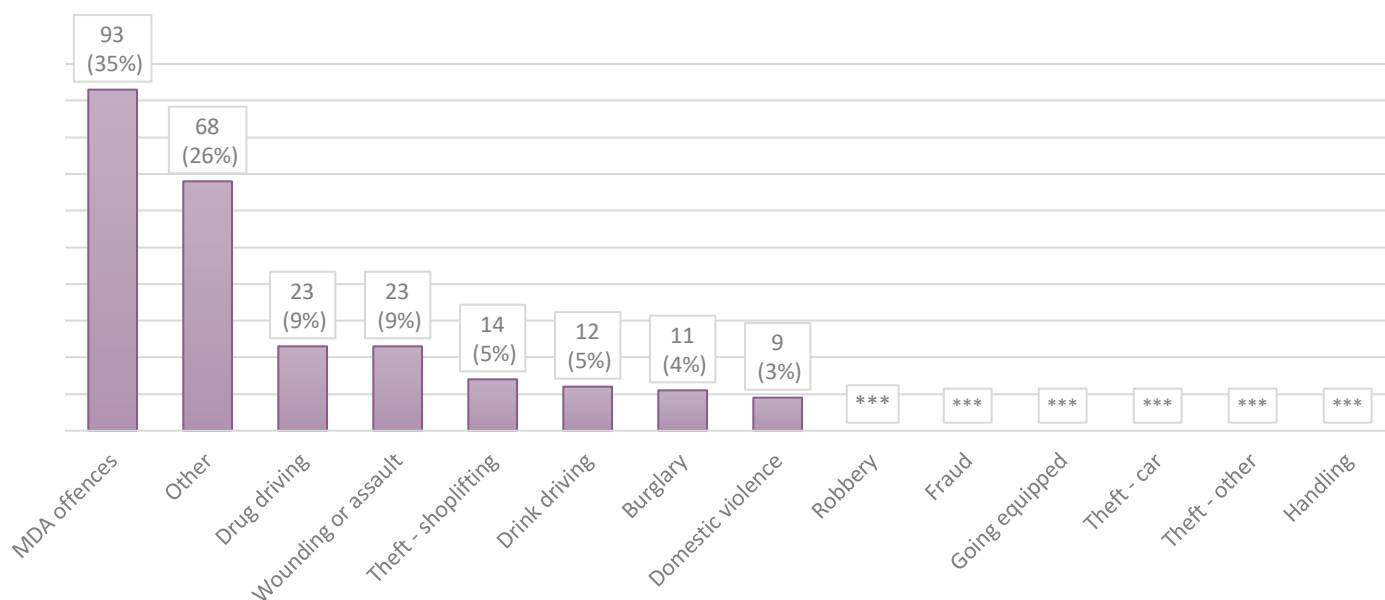
Figure 21: Knowsley residents by number of units of alcohol consumed on an average day and sex (%), 2023/24



OFFENDING

The offence that prompted Knowsley CJIT clients' current or most recent contact with the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2024 is shown in *Figure 22*. Just over a third of the offences were Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) offences (n=93, 35%)⁵, followed by around a quarter of offences categorised as 'other' (n=68, 26%). The proportion of MDA offences is slightly larger than the Merseyside figure (32%), while the proportion of other offences is smaller than the Merseyside figure (29%). Furthermore, Knowsley had the largest proportion of drug driving recorded in the year ending March 2024 of the five Merseyside CJITs (Merseyside total: 4%) and the smallest proportion of theft - shoplifting (joint with Liverpool; Merseyside total: 7%).

Figure 22: Knowsley residents by offence that prompted current/most recent contact with the criminal justice system, 2023/24



⁵ The majority of MDA offences were possession (n=84, 90%), while the remainder were supply (n=9, 10%).

Figure 23 shows six-year trends of the main offending categories for Knowsley residents. There were substantial increases in the number of MDA offences, theft - shoplifting and other offences (90%, 100% and 113% increases respectively) in the year ending March 2024.

Figure 23: Knowsley residents by main offences that prompted current/most recent contact with the criminal justice system (n), 2018/19 - 2023/24

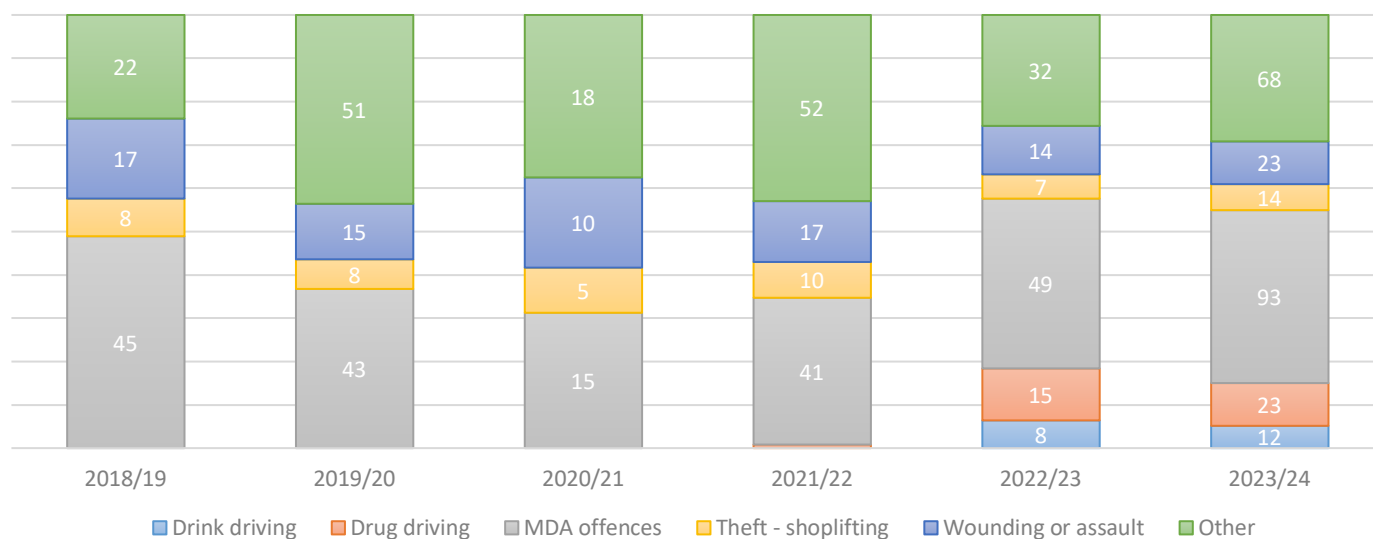
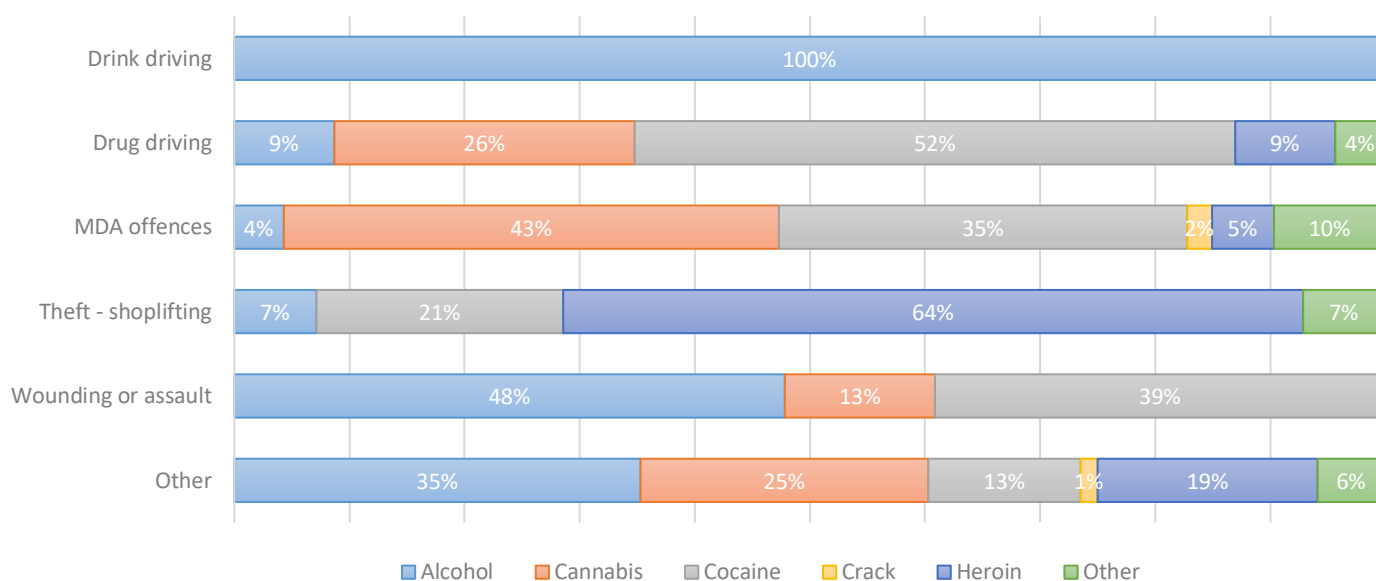


Figure 24 shows the proportions of the main substance for the most common offences recorded for Knowsley CJIT contacts assessed in the year ending March 2024. All of the drink driving episodes had alcohol recorded as the main substance, while of the drug driving episodes, around half (52%) reported powder cocaine as the main substance and around one-quarter (26%) were cannabis. For MDA offences, 43% reported cannabis and 35% reported cocaine, while just under two-thirds (64%) of the theft - shoplifting offences had heroin recorded as the main substance. Alcohol accounted for just under half (48%) of wounding or assault, followed by powder cocaine (39%), and around a third (35%) of other offences had alcohol reported as the main substance, followed by cannabis (25%) and heroin (19%).

Figure 24: Knowsley residents by main substance and offence (%), 2023/24



REFERRALS TO STRUCTURED TREATMENT

Of the clients on the CJIT caseload, 60 (59 individuals) were referred to structured treatment in 2023/24 (Figure 25)⁶.

Figure 25: Knowsley residents by referrals to structured treatment, 2023/24

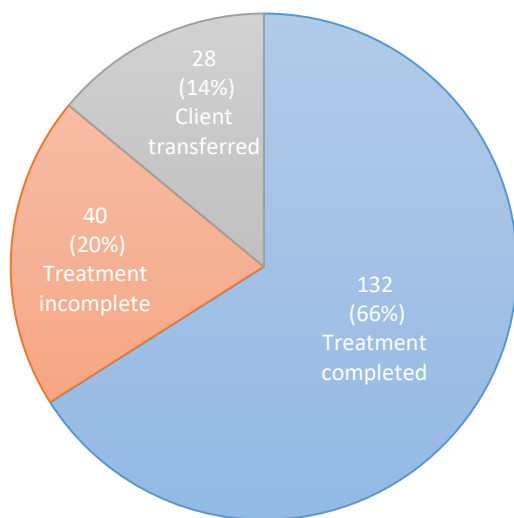


60 (59 individuals)
referrals to structured treatment

TREATMENT OUTCOMES

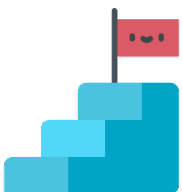
There were 200 clients (195 individuals) closed from the Knowsley CJIT caseload in the year ending March 2024⁷. Of these, two in three completed treatment (n=132, 66%), while one in five did not complete treatment (n=40, 20%) and one in seven transferred prior to the completion of treatment (n=28, 14%; Figure 26). Notably, when compared to the other Merseyside areas, Knowsley had the largest proportion of clients who successfully completed treatment (Merseyside total: 34%).

Figure 26: Discharges from the Knowsley CJIT caseload, 2023/24



Of the 132 Knowsley residents who completed treatment successfully in the year ending March 2024, the average time on the CJIT caseload was 137 days (Figure 27), which is just below the Merseyside average (141 days).

Figure 27: Average time on Knowsley CJIT caseload for clients who completed treatment, 2023/24



On average, clients successfully completed CJIT treatment in

137 days

⁶ Figures include referrals to structured treatment where the date was between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, regardless of when the client was taken onto the CJIT caseload. Clients not taken onto the CJIT caseload have been excluded from these figures.

⁷ Figures include discharges from the CJIT caseload where the date was between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, regardless of when the client was taken onto the caseload.

APPENDIX A: NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THIS REPORT

1. In 2020, Merseyside Police suspended drug testing in the custody suites for five months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This affected the number of Required Assessments carried out following a positive test for specified Class A drugs in the year ending March 2021.
2. The overview chapter (*Figures 1-3*) are for all Knowsley CJIT contacts in the year, while all other figures are for residents of Knowsley LA only, recorded by Knowsley CJIT.
3. Figures for age, sex and ethnicity are for individuals (*Figures 5-8*); however, this is not the case for other figures, as data may change for clients with more than one CJIT episode during the reporting year.
4. For instances where there are blank records or the client declines to answer, does not know or does not state a response, these have been excluded from the calculations; therefore, totals may not add up to the total number of CJIT contacts or individuals.
5. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
6. Numbers less than five have been suppressed to maintain client confidentiality. Where there is only one number less than five in a category then two numbers have been suppressed to prevent back calculations from totals (e.g., <10).
7. The Merseyside figures are the totals recorded by all five Merseyside CJITs (Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral).
8. Throughout this report, cocaine includes cocaine hydrochloride and cocaine unspecified, while crack includes cocaine freebase (crack).
9. Supplementary data to support this report can be accessed here: [CJIT Activity in Merseyside: supplementary tables & charts \(end 2023/24\)](#).

In the year ending March 2024, 138.7 individuals per 100,000 adult population in Merseyside were assessed by one of the local CJITs. Knowsley had the second highest number of individuals in contact with the CJIT of the five Merseyside areas, and the largest rate (208.1 per 100,000)⁸.

CJIT/LA	CJIT contacts (individuals)	
	Number	Rate (per 100,000 adult population)
Knowsley	258	208.1
Liverpool	681	167.0
Sefton	242	105.8
St Helens	231	155.2
Wirral	220	84.9
<i>Total Merseyside residents (individuals)</i>	<i>1,621</i>	<i>138.7</i>



⁸ Rates have been calculated using [mid-2023 population estimates](#) for each LA for adults aged 18 years or over. Figures show the residents of each of the CJIT areas (individuals only) i.e., Knowsley residents recorded by Knowsley CJIT.

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About the Public Health Institute

The Public Health Institute (PHI) within the Faculty of Health, Innovation, Technology and Science at Liverpool John Moores University, specialises in applied research and educational programmes addressing health issues at all levels from policy development to service delivery. PHI is committed to a multidisciplinary approach to public health and works in partnership with health services, local authorities, judicial bodies, environmental services and community groups.

Influencing health service design and delivery, as well as health related policy, PHI's research has been at the forefront of the development of multi-agency strategies to promote and protect public health. PHI turns information and data into meaningful and timely intelligence.

Intelligence and Surveillance Team

The Intelligence and Surveillance Team provides data collection and monitoring systems to support public health reporting, evidence review, evaluation and research. The team has extensive experience across various large-scale data sets which contribute to the surveillance systems developed and managed by PHI.

DIP monitoring

PHI has been monitoring criminal justice interventions for people in the criminal justice system who use drugs and/or alcohol since the implementation of the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) in 2003. The Institute is commissioned to deliver the intelligence and surveillance of data collected for clients in contact with DIP across Merseyside.

The Intelligence and Surveillance Team has access to Merseyside Police records for drug tests carried out for specified Class A drugs in the custody suites and the criminal justice data set, which collects information on clients in contact with the Criminal Justice Intervention Teams (CJITs) across Merseyside's treatment providers. Drug testing records are matched with the criminal justice data set across the five Merseyside Local Authority areas, using a client attributor. This enables the monitoring of performance, identifying when individuals have attended their Required Assessment (RA) and engaged with DIP, and highlight any issues with the RA, and wider DIP, processes.

Intelligence is collated and presented through monthly and annual reports, and ad-hoc reporting in response to data requests. In partnership with commissioners, treatment providers and Merseyside Police, DIP monitoring in Merseyside is continually developing to meet local needs.

